(d) No, Sir.

(e) No directions are proposed to be given to the Canteen Stores Deptt. in this regard. The financial conditions generally applicable to CSD suppliers are uniformly applied irrespective of the size or scale, except in the case of those suppliers who have been supplying items to the CSD for more than five years and the total sales turn-over in respect of all of whose items supplied to the CSD exceeds Rs. 3 crores per annum.

Military Budget

4266. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that military budget of the country has come down from 4.1 percent of GNP in 1987-88 to 2.87 per cent in 1993-94;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the military budget in the neighbouring countries ranges between 4—7 per cent;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to enhance the percentage of the same, and if so, to what extent; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) India's Defence Expenditure has declined over the last few years as a percentage of GNP, and is currently being estimated at 2.5% of the GDP.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Having regard to the changing threat scenario and the availability of resources, the Government takes all appropriate measures to ensure effective Defence preparedness.

Lease premium on Defence lands

4267. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of orders issued by the Ministry of Defence in the letter No. 18/32/L/L&C/52/1326/D (Lands), dated the 9th January, 1979 and in their letter dated the 8th September, 1977 and in lease premium on defence lands in the country within civil areas;

(b) whether Government are aware that the Cantonment authorities by and large have been failing to involve the orders as above and the rules contained in the Cantonment Land Administration Rules, 1937 to ensure proper realisation of premium from various classes of lands under Old Grant or in B-3 lands within the civil areas of Cantonments;

(c) whether Government would now take effective steps to protect the defence land properties and buildings; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d) Letters No. 18/32/L/L&C/52/1326/D (Lands), dated 9-2-1979 (not dated 9-1-1979) and dated 8-9-77 [copies placed at Statements 'A' and 'B' (*See* below)] do not deal with realising premium on leased lands in civil areas within the Cantonments. These letters explain the land policy of Govt. towards sites held in bungalow areas, leases specified in Cantonment Land Administration Rules, 1937 and grant of leases to public institutions. The provisions of these letters apply to B-3 lands which comprise old grants, lease of various tenures under Cantonment Code 1899, 1912 and CLA Rules 1925 and 1937 in respect of which occupancy rights are vested in the lessees. No lease involving conversion of old grants or other resumable tenure into leaseholds is permissible.

Premium is recovered at the time of granting of lease depending upon the nature of lease. Letter dated 9-2-1970 empowers the Deputy Directors, the Command to renew leases where the renewal option vests in the lessee. In all such cases premiums are recovered before the lease is executed. As such, there is no question of non-realisation of premium in lease of land.

Statement 'A'

No. 18/32/L/L&C/52/1326/D (Lands)
Government of India,
Ministry of Defence,
New Delhi, the 9th February, 1970

CORRIGENDUM

The following amendments are made to the Government of India, Ministry of Defence, letter No. 18/32/L/L&C/52/1108/D (Lands) dated the 6th February 1968 as amended vide letter No. 18/32/L/L&C/52/8284/D (Lands), dated the 1st September 1969 regarding renewal of the old Cantonment Code leases:—

In para 1, lines four and five delete "General Officers Commanding-in-Chief" and *substitute*,
"Deputy Director, ML&C".